

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Vickers ~~Building~~ & Schumacher Buildings

and/or common Schumacher Carriage Works

2. Location

street & number 707-709 & 711 Dauphin Street N/A not for publication

city, town Mobile N/A vicinity of _____ congressional district 01

state Alabama code 01 county Mobile code 097

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Downtown Realty Company

street & number 1410 Dauphin Street

city, town Mobile N/A vicinity of _____ state Alabama 36604

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Mobile County Probate Court

street & number 109 Government Street

city, town Mobile state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Alabama Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1970 - present federal state county local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery state AL

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Vickers and Schumacher Buildings, located at 707-711 Dauphin Street, are two story commercial buildings which share a party wall. 707-709 displays the simple commercial style of the turn of the century with classical overtones evident in the window treatment while 711 Dauphin represents the severe, utilitarian commercial treatment of a building constructed just after the Civil War.

The Vickers Building, constructed c. 1904, is on the site of an earlier one story, partially frame building that formed part of the Schumacher Carriage Works. The roof configuration is not visible from the street since it is hidden along the facade by a raised parapet and along the east side and rear west wall by a shallower stepped parapet. One exterior chimney is visible at the east wall.

The facade is symmetrically arranged with seven windows on the second story. Each window currently has two vertical lights set in wood sash with a single light transom. These are replacements for the original 6/6 light wood sash windows. Above each window opening is a straight headed lintel composed of voussoir blocks and keystone. A continuous stuccoed sill ties together the three windows to each side of the central axis. The original carriage ways are clearly discernible on the first story, although they have been infilled with concrete block, multi-lighted windows and corrugated fiberglass. The narrow semi-circular headed doorway is emphasized by three concentric rows of headers with a central keystone created by a build-up of headers.

The Schumacher Building at 711 Dauphin dates from 1866 and displays a simplicity of design with style related to its utilitarian purpose. The two story brick building has a gable roof with a parapet along the facade that steps up over the central bay. The rear wall has a slightly raised gabled parapet end wall. Two exterior chimneys are visible along the west wall. The brick bonding is the same in both buildings--5 rows of stretchers to one row of headers. In this instance, the windows at the second story level are high-lighted by flat Dutch or French arches and have simple wood sills. Anchors are visible at several points on the facade emphasized by stars. On the first floor, the symmetrical facade arrangement continues with a narrow rectangular opening placed to each side of a large semi-elliptical carriage opening. In a similar manner to the Vickers Building, the carriage way is defined by a triple concentric band of headers with keystone and has been infilled with incompatible materials.

Both buildings have large open spaces on the interior with exposed brick walls, ceiling timbers and floor joists. Concrete floors are present on the first story while the second story has wood planking. Also visible on the interior of the Vickers Building on the second floor is the original exterior rear wall which remained in place when the building was extended at the rear.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1904 & 1866 **Builder/Architect** Vickers & Schumacher

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Architecture:

707-711 Dauphin Street represent two commercial buildings constructed some 40 years apart, both designed with an eye to a severe, unornamented style appropriate to a carriage factory. The lack of decorative embellishments reflects this utilitarian nature of the buildings which rely heavily upon the brick work for visual interest and variety. While Mobile had numerous carriage makers located throughout the city during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, this is the last surviving example of commercial buildings in which carriages and wagons were manufactured. These buildings were used by carriage makers until 1914 when the building became a storehouse for the Mobile Electric Company.

Integrity:

Both buildings have undergone only minor changes over the years. The carriage entrances, though they have been infilled with a variety of materials, are still intact physically and visually. Window lights in the case of 707-709 Dauphin have been modified from the original 6/6 light double wood sash to windows with two vertical lights and single light transom. On the interior, load bearing brick walls, ceiling timbers and floor joists are visible throughout. The original end wall of 707-709 Dauphin is still visible on the second floor where it was left as an interior divider when the building was added to at the rear.

* * * * *

Henry Schumacher purchased several parcels along this block of Dauphin Street in the 1840s and conducted his carriage manufacturing business at this location until his death. His heirs continued to rent the property to other carriage makers until they sold the property to Michael J. Vickers in 1904. It was Vickers who constructed the larger building undoubtedly with a view towards continuing to use it as a carriage works.

The Vickers and Schumacher Buildings are located along Mobile's primary 19th c. trading and shopping thoroughfare and are adjacent to the Lower Dauphin Street Commercial Historic District. They represent the diversity of building styles found along Dauphin Street and demonstrate the continuing importance of Dauphin Street as a commercial center for this port city until the early twentieth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Deeds, mortgages, wills from the records of the Mobile County Probate Court; Maps including Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1846 Troost Map, 1868 Pillans Map, 1873 and 1891 Bird's-eye-view maps; Tax Assessment Records; City Directories.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Mobile

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	6	3	9	9	3	0	0	3	3	9	5	3	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Price Tract, Block 111, part of lots 2 and 3; beginning 55' from the southeast corner of Dauphin and Scott, running east on south side of Dauphin 108' by a depth of 75'.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Anne S. Bantens, Chief Researcher

organization Mobile Historic Development Comm. date October 21, 1982

street & number P.O. Box 1827 telephone (205) 438-7133

city or town Mobile state Alabama 36633

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 11/21/83

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register


Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 12/22/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration